





Claim 14 has been amended to recite a method for cleaning and care of water-resistant surfaces. One of the recited steps involves providing a composition having the characteristics recited in claim 1. Thus, for the same reasons recited above with respect to claim 1, Applicants submit that the composition provided in this step is neither disclosed nor suggested in any of the cited references.

In addition, none of the cited references relates to cleaning and care of water-resistant surfaces and therefore, do not relate to the presently recited method of use of the composition. Thus, the other recited steps in amended claim 14 involve the dilution of the composition and the application of the diluted composition to the surface, thereby resulting in a residue being formed. Also, the last step recites is the drying of the residue to form a film that contains the surfactant and the sheet silicate. As mentioned, none of the cited references involve the formation of a film in any step that may relate to a use of those recited compositions.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of amended claim 14.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: December 5, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Edward J. Ellis

Registration No.: 40,389

DARBY & DARBY P.C.

P.O. Box 5257

New York, New York 10150-5257

(212) 527-7700

(212) 753-6237 (Fax)

Attorneys/Agents For Applicant